

REMARKS

Claims 1-7 are pending in this application. Claims 1-3 have been objected to as containing informalities. Claim 4 has been rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 112, first paragraph, as containing subject matter which was not described in the specification in such a way as to enable one skilled in the art to make the invention. Claim 5 has been rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 112, second paragraph, as being indefinite for failing to particularly point out and distinctly claim the subject matter which application regards as the invention. Claims 1-3, 6, and 7 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over U.S. Patent No. 5,896,929 to Dori (hereinafter "Dori") in view of U.S. Patent No. 994,971 to Beck (hereinafter "Beck"). Claim 4 stands rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Dori and Beck as applied to claims 1-3, and further in view of U.S. Patent No. 4,050,168 to Pace (hereinafter "Pace").

The Examiner has also objected to the drawings due to an unclear reference numeral and to the specification due to informalities.

By the foregoing amendments, Applicants have amended the drawings to more clearly define what reference numeral 42 refers to and have amended the specification to overcome the Examiner's objections thereto, in addition to correcting minor typographical errors. Applicants have amended the claims to overcome the Examiner's objections and to further clarify the language used in the claims.

Regarding the rejection of Claim 4, Applicants direct the Examiner's attention to Figure 3 and Paragraph 0020, which describe the interlocking blocks.

The Dori patent relates to a method and apparatus for temporarily displaying a series of repetitive messages on an extended area of compliant ground, such as a beach. The apparatus, as described at column 2, lines 25-44, "includes a roller 20 journaled on a frame 22 coupled at 23 to the draw bar 18 for following the rake 14."

Beck discloses a device for stamping streets or pavements including means (lever 13, rod 14, bell crank joint 15, and link 16) for raising and lowering a chain 17 used for holding letters 27 to selectively engage the letter 27 with the surface.

Applicants respectfully contend that there is no motivation in either Dori or Beck to combine the teachings of those two patents, to produce the system of the present invention.

The mere fact that references can be combined or modified does not render the resultant combination obvious unless the prior art also suggest the desirability of the combination. (MPEP §2143.01, page 2100-126, citing *In re Mills*, 916 F.2d 680, 16 USPQ2d 1430 (Fed. Cir. 1990))

Both Dori and Beck disclose large devices that are propelled across a surface by mechanical means (a tractor and an automobile, respectively). Contrast this with the present invention, which relates to a system that is propelled by human power (see, e.g., Figure 4). Based on the size and construction of the roller 20 disclosed in Dori, it would not be physically possible to connect the raising and lowering means

Applicant: HALT et al.
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disclosed in Beck to the roller 20 to enable it to move on and off the surface. Furthermore, there is no indication in Dori that it would even be desirable to lift the roller 20 off the sand or other surface. In direct contrast with this idea is the fact that Dori contains numerous mentions for providing a series of messages along extended areas; see column 1, lines 29-46 and 52-56 and column 3, lines 18-36.

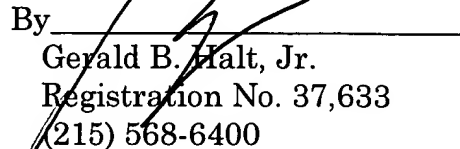
Because the present invention is not obvious in over Dori in view of Beck, it is not necessary for Applicants to further distinguish the present invention over Pace.

It is respectfully submitted that the amendments made herein place pending claims 1-7 in condition for allowance. Accordingly, entry of this amendment as well as reconsideration and allowance of pending claims 1-7 are respectfully requested.

If the Examiner does not believe that the claims are in condition for allowance, the Examiner is respectfully requested to contact the undersigned at 215-568-6400.

Respectfully submitted,

HALT et al.

By 
Gerald B. Halt, Jr.
Registration No. 37,633
(215) 568-6400

Volpe and Koenig, P.C.
United Plaza, Suite 1600
30 South 17th Street
Philadelphia, PA 19103

GBH/SJG/dc
Enclosures